IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Toshiaki MASUDA et al.

Patent Art Unit: 1796

Serial No. 10/595,910

Examiner: Irina Sopjia ZEMEL

Filed: May 18, 2006

Confirmation No.: 8921

For: Thermally Expanded Microsphere, Process

for Producing the Same, Thermally

Expandable Microsphere and Use Thereof

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants bring the reference listed on the attached PTO-1449-Form to the Examiner's attention and request that it be considered and made of record in this application. A copy of the non-U.S. patent is attached. Also attached is a copy of European Search Report of the corresponding European Application No. 04 81 8881.

No fee is believed to be required in view of the above information disclosure statement. However, Applicants authorize the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to charge payment of the Petition fee Under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) if required and any other fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1836.

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

/John C. Robbins/ John C. Robbins Reg. No. 34,706

GLOBAL IP COUNSELORS, LLP 1233 Twentieth Street, NW, Suite 700 Washington, DC 20036 (202)-293-0444 Dated: March 6, 2009

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